

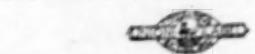
THE CAUCASIAN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
BY THE CAUCASIAN PUBLISHING CO.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

ONE YEAR.....	\$1.00
SIX MONTHS.....	.60
THREE MONTHS.....	.35

Entered in the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C.,
as Second Class Matter



We earnestly ask each
Subscriber to look at the label
on his paper, and if the date is
behind the date of this issue,

23rd DECEMBER, 1897,
to send us \$1.00 and get the
date moved up for another year.
We cannot continue subscrip-
tions that have expired—Please
attend to this at once

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK.

There will be no issue of THE CAU-
CASICAN during Christmas week. Those
who conduct it have quite severely
taxed for some months past and a short
respite is both necessary and deserved.
We wish everybody a delightful Christ-
mas, and hope every one can see that
dawning of a better and more generous
condition of affairs with the begin-
ning of the New Year.

TELLING LIES TO MANUFACTURE
PREJUDICE.

The "nigger" organs have found
that they were making but little head-
way in their efforts to frighten the
people with the doomsday of three
white men with one negro. They have
found that the people are on to their
game and cannot be made thus to for-
get the money and monopoly ques-
tion, and will not, negro or negro, allow
the railroads to capture the next
legislature. They have found that the
people are everywhere declaring in
favor of Senator Butler's proposition
for a co-operation of all who were op-
posed to the gold standard and monop-
oly domination and who favor white
supremacy to elect such an anti-mono-
poly legislature. This fact has so
alarmed them that they realize that
something must be done or the people
who think alike will join hands and
will gain a victory over the gold-
bugs and monopolists for good gov-
ernment. So they have just now de-
termined to make a desperate effort to
misrepresent what Senator Butler has
said in every speech since Augus-
t 10th on the color question. They have
come to lying, and are now lying more
vigorously than ever. But each one
of their lies have been met with the
truth to crush it. But they have re-
fused to publish both sides. They are
trying to keep their readers ignorant
of the truth. Their desperate and
damnable scheme of slander will not
work. The people see the "nigger in
the wood-pile." They see the purpose
of these lying and slanderous papers.
Those who think alike will join hands
and they will win. This will give to
the State the best white man's gov-
ernment that it has ever seen.

You can send us a Christmas gift
that will cost you nothing, that will
help the cause of reform, and one that
we will appreciate more than anything
else you can send us. You will visit
your friends and relatives during the
holidays, they will visit you. Don't
miss this opportunity to put in a word
for THE CAUCASIAN. Yes, get up a
club of subscribers and send it for a
Christmas or a New Year's gift. We
will have labored unceasingly to do our full
duty in the great fight for the people,
and if you shall see fit to show your
appreciation by sending in a club of
subscribers for the next year, we will
give us the kind of help and encourage-
ment that we need and will appreciate.

MAYOR MCKINLEY'S HOLD MOVE.

In nearly every city in America pri-
vate syndicates have succeeded in get-
ting the city council or aldermen to
grant them, for nothing, most valuable
franchises. They have gotten
franchises to put street cars on the city
thoroughfares; to have a monopoly to
furnish gas and electric light and wa-
ter for the city; in fact, have gotten
the exclusive control of all the natural
monopolies, and thus the power to
charge what they please for all of the
necessaries. Those things which should
be furnished to the people in the best
quality at cost, they have exclusive
right to furnish an inferior quality
and charge for the same the highest
possible rate. Of course the controllers
of such valuable public franchises
soon become millionaires at the ex-
pense of the citizens. When the public
rebel they spend a part of their ill-
gotten gains to buy up newspapers,
bribe councilmen and control elections.

A marked illustration of this shock-
ing state of affairs has just attracted
public attention in Cleveland, Ohio.
In that city Mr. Hanna is one of the
chief owners of the street railway lines.
Not satisfied with the importunate
which he and his partners now
hold, it seems that Mr. Hanna has been
at work to manipulate the city council
to grant him still greater franchises.
While the mayor of the city, Mr. Mc-
Kesson, is a Republican, he seems to
have rebelled against the daring and
unfeigned greed of Mr. Hanna and
his partners. He fought their scheme,
but their money was powerful enough
to control the city council. This caused
the mayor to publicly denounce the
corruption in a unique public procla-
mation.

It begins as follows:

"MAYOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 7, '97.

"To the Citizens of Cleveland:
"In view of the high-handed and out-
rageous proceedings in the City Coun-
cil Monday evening, when the Re-
ynolds ordinances granting renewals
of franchises to the street railways
in this city of 200 miles of street railways, for a period of 25
years, with a pretended but false and
dilatory return, were forced without
discussion and by gagging and dishon-
est ruling of the President of that body

to acceptance and placed on their sec-
ond reading at the dictation of the
street railway lobbyists, and then
passed, notwithstanding that only by an
immediate and positive manifestation
of popular disapproval and condemnation
can the completion of this gigantic
betrayal of public rights be prevented,
next Monday evening, the Re-
ynolds ordinances were passed, and
hurriedly issued this proclamation calling
upon all good citizens who are jealous
of the free and proper government of
this municipality and the protection
of the interests of its people to rally to
the support of the People's Party for all the
supporters of Bryan to join in saving
the city from the disgraceful surren-
der to monopolistic greed which now
is threatened."

He proceeds to appeal to the people
to rally, hold indignation meetings
and denounce the robbery. He tells
them that they have been robbed out
of millions of dollars worth of fran-
chises in the past, and he urges them
to bestir themselves and stop this at-
tempt at further robbery.

The mistake that Cleveland has
made is the same mistake that is
made by nine-tenths of the cities of
America. They have allowed these
private franchises, these natural mono-
polies, to go into the hands of private
syndicates. Whenever and wherever
this mistake is made, either by a city
government, a state government, or
the national government, the inevi-
table result will be the same. The
syndicate controlling the public fran-
chises will furnish a poor service and
wring from the people the highest
possible price that they will bear.
With this money they will then at-
tempt to control newspapers, contro-
lions, and corrupt politicians and
the people's representatives. There is
no remedy for this evil but public own-
ership.

The masses of the people have al-
ready awakened to this important
truth. It is most encouraging to see
prominent and influential officials like
Mayor McKesson, of Cleveland, Gov-
ernor Pingree, of Michigan, and Gov-
ernor Russell, of North Carolina, who
have the manhood and patriotism to
thrust themselves into the breach and
to expose, denounce and fight this ser-
vice in our industrial system. We be-
lieve that there are legions of such pa-
triots in the Republican party who will
not follow it in its prostitution and
service to the money power and mono-
polies. Such patriots allied with the Popul-
ist banner such overshadowing and deadly
evils to the general welfare will be
crushed out, and the principles of good
government for which Jefferson and
Jackson stood will again be trium-
phant.

The CAUCASIAN will give those in
its office holiday next week. The next
issue of the paper will be January 6th
1898. But mail sent to this office in
the meantime will be promptly at-
tended to.

THEY REPUDIATE THE REFERENDUM
—IT IS NOT TREASON WHAT
IS IT?

If that so-called organization commit-
tee of the factional Nashville confer-
ence (which was called by certain mem-
bers after the National Committee had
voted down the proposition by a refer-
endum vote) had wanted harmony they
would have pursued a very different
course. They would have asked the
National Committee to decide by refer-
endum vote upon their proposition
for a National Convention next spring
to nominate a presidential ticket for
1900. Instead of this they have repu-
diated the referendum principle in our
plan of organization, they have defied
the organization of the party, and have
proceeded to announce that they (a fac-
tion) will call a factional so cal-
led national convention to nominate
next April Wharton Barker for presi-
dent for the campaign of 1900. If they
had not thought that the National
Committee would not approve of their
scheme, and if they had not also
thought that the next National Con-
vention would not approve of their
methods and submit to their dictation,
they would have pursued a different
course—they would have appealed to
the committee and from the commit-
tee (if adverse) to the next National
Convention.

It is the purpose is not to try to split
the party what is it? Fortunately
there are but few men who will follow
such a crazy and rebellious scheme.
They may bolt the party, but the re-
cruits will number two for every one
of such.

As will be seen from our news-
columns, the President has nominated
Attorney-General Joseph McKenna
for Associate Justice of the Supreme
Court of the United States. This ac-
tion of the President's has brought
forth a storm of protest from leading
members of the bar and from leading
newspapers in California and other
Western States where the record of
Mr. McKenna is best known. We
published in another column some clip-
pings in which the newspapers call him
a "corporation Judge," and also the
protest from the San Francisco bar
in which the leading lawyers declare
by resolution that he is "incompetent"
and that his record as "United States
Circuit Judge is "disgraceful."

We do not believe in judging men basi-
cally, and the arguments made seem to be
facts that no one questions. For a
man to be qualified for Judge of any
court and especially for Judge of the
last resort in the United States, he
should not only a good man and an
able man, but he should be above sus-
picion. Mr. McKenna is probably the
smallest man who has ever been nomi-
nated for this important place. There
will no doubt be considerable popular
demand from many quarters petition-
ing and urging the United States Senate
not to confirm the nomination of a
man who seems to be so entirely unfit
in every way for the responsible and
extremely important position. With
the courts in the hands of the mono-
polists and trusts then surely the peo-
ple would have no rights the corpora-
tions would be bound to respect.

The civil service is a great humbug.
But there are a lot of humbugs pretend-
ing to be against it who would not
vote to repeal the law if they had a
chance. There are enough voters in
Congress to repeal the law, if those
who pretend to be against it are in
earnest and will vote to repeal it.

So long as the goldbug press chro-
nicle every 5 cent raise in wages, they
shouldn't blame silverites for just
mentioning the still more numerous
10 cent reductions.

OF SUCH THEY ARE.

A subscriber writes asking how
many members of the Democratic
State Executive Committee are gold-
bugs and monopolists. This is hard to
say, for we do not like to judge men
personally unless we have the proof,
and then we state the facts. But we
do know that a majority of the
committee are goldbugs and mono-
polists, at least when they showed it in the last
campaign when they refused the propo-
sition of the People's Party for all the
supporters of Bryan to join in electing
an anti-monopolist legislature. And
Senator Butler has been active in ex-
posing the conspiracy. The hot dog
always hollers. Of course!

Why have certain so-called silver
papers stopped fighting goldbugs
and monopolists and are now using
all of their time in abusing Sen-
ator Butler, who was fighting for sil-
ver when they were supporting and
defending goldbug Cleveland? Why
have they refused to publish the thirty
odd affidavits branding the lie about
his Rocky Mount speech? Because
they are into a scheme to turn the next
legislature over to the railroads, and
Senator Butler has been active in ex-
posing the conspiracy. The hot dog
always hollers. Of course!

The workingmen of the East who
voted to rally, hold indignation meetings
and denounce the robbery. He tells
them that they have been robbed out
of millions of dollars worth of fran-
chises in the past, and he urges them
to bestir themselves and stop this at-
tempt at further robbery.

The workingmen of the West who
voted to rally, hold indignation meetings
and denounce the robbery. He tells
them that they have been robbed out
of millions of dollars worth of fran-
chises in the past, and he urges them
to bestir themselves and stop this at-
tempt at further robbery.

McKinley still has faith in the bi-
metallic commission, a faith which
makes him a star monopolist; being
without doubt the only human being
on earth who has.

POMEROY TO THE POINT

He is opposed to the Conference of the
Nashville Committee, for the Purpose
Stated, and Gives His Reasons Why.

We print below a letter written by
Mr. Elwood Pomeroy, President Di-
rect Legislation League, and member
National Committee of the People's
Party to Mr. Wm. Park, in which he
states some good reasons why it is op-
posed to the conference and leading

points of the conference.

THE PRESIDENT WORKING FOR THE
BANKERS.

Edward C. Duncan, of North Caro-
lina, was appointed Collector of Inter-
nal Revenue for the 4th district

in North Carolina.

Mr. E. N. Watson, mother of

Hon. C. B. Watson, late Democratic

candidate for Governor, died last

week at her home, near Kernersville,

at the age of 93 years.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 16, 1897.

MILTON PARK, Esq., Chairman Organiza-
tion Committee, Dallas, Texas.

DEAR SIR.—Your circular letter of

the 11th, inviting me as a member of

the National Committee of the People's

Party to a conference to be held at St.

Louis on Jan. 12th to have it

written up to you for me to

see, I enclose a copy of the circular

letter.

It is my pleasure to inform you

that I am unable to attend the con-

ference.

It is my pleasure to inform you

that I am unable to attend the con-

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It is my pleasure to inform you

THE CAUCASIAN.

Raleigh, N. C., December 23, 1897



Fifty Years Ago.

Grandfather's hat! And within it you see, Grandfather's favorite cough remedy. Whether 'twas Asthma, Bronchitis or Croup, or baby at night waked the house with a With Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Granther was sure That no cold or cough would e'er fall of a With Ayer's Cherry Pectoral Granther was sure In hats the styles change, but the records will show Coughs are cured as they were 50 years ago.

IMPORTANT TO TAX-PAYERS.

"I instructed the sheriff from the beach this (Monday) to prepare a delinquent list of all parties not having paid their taxes by Saturday night, the 18th inst., and to furnish the same to this court." This list will then be handed to the marshal to be dealt with according to law. The sheriff has no voice in this matter.

THE MACHINE DEMOCRATS.

Are Greatly Worried Because People are not Jailed for Failure to pay Taxes—So They Try Their Hand at It—And Would Imprison Those who Have not Paid Their Taxes—Then Heap Abuse Upon the Poor People.

A few days ago a "Tax Notice" with Judge Thos. H. Sutton's name signed to it appeared in the Charlotte Observer and copied by the Democratic paper throughout the State. These negro monopoly organs proceeded to the fusion legislation in length; saying that the fusion legislation had passed a law to put people in jail for not paying their tax. They held up this "Tax Notice" as coming from a Republican Judge to prove their statement.

Now let's see where this "Notice to Taxpayers" came from, who signed Judge Sutton's name and who is responsible for that statement?

The following taken from the Charlotte Observer December 17th explaining itself:

THE NOTICE TO TAX PAYERS.

Judge Sutton Did Not Write It. Sign It, or Authorize It.

Democrat of the D. in the Dis-

United States Marshal Carroll left for Columbus, Ohio, with eight convicts there, and Chief-Deputy Hanna Washington with two young men pastelio thieves to be placed in a reformatory.

Rep. Congressman Cheatham (color-

ful) now a Deed of Deeds in the Dis-

United States Inspector of Building under the control of the Treasury Department, was here recently and inspected the new revenue and post-house building. Not so good the condition of the build-

ing was condemned by a special agent. It is dirty, there are no electric lights, and there is great noise of paint.

The facts regarding tuberculous among cattle in this State are rather startling—that there is no herd which is not infected. For some time the milk used in the agricultural and mechanical college here has been pasteurized. In the herd there was a large and fine one. Eight of the cows have been killed thus far. Last year seven were killed at the State experiment farm.

The report of the Adjutant General, now in the hands of the printers, will say that the State Guard has been called out eight times during the year 1897, to prevent lynchings and riots. Twice they were called out at Henderson, twice at Raleigh, twice at Rockingham, once at Asheville and once at Elizabeth City. The National Guard has not been called into service at all during the past year.

The State Labor Commissioner says that there are in the northeastern counties 40 saw-mills with bandsaws, which average each 50,000 ft. a day. The biggest mill in the State, the Lanning, cuts 200,000 feet a day. The commissioner is delighted with the fertility and resources of that section, and says that its people worked as hard and were as economical as those in the western counties they would be rich.

The most elaborate marriage that has occurred in Durham in many years took place Wednesday evening at Trinity Methodist church. The contracting parties were Mr. J. E. Slagle and Miss Minnie W. Lyon, the granddaughter of Mr. Washington Slagle. Mr. John C. Cole, assisted by Rev. J. N. Cole, performed the ceremony, after which a reception was held from 9 to 12 o'clock at Fairview, the palatial residence of Mr. Washington Duke.

Now ready to buy of expect to buy one CELEBRATED ORING CO. GUN & FARMERS' BORDER SPECIAL COMPOND AD. 1000 ROYSTER'S NORTH CAROLINA ALMANACS, Call at your office, and if you do not find one there for you write us.

F. S. ROYSTER GUANO CO., Norfolk, Va.

EXPLANATIONS IN ORDER.

From the Friends of the Machine Democratic Press on the Revenue of Secretary of State's Office Under former and Present Administrations.

We give below the total receipts of the State department for the past five years, and the amount received by the administration of Dr. Thompson since his appointment in 1891, and the receipts for the year 1897.

All of the members sign the report.

The Sheriff of Mecklenburg county is a DEMOCRAT. Thus far only Democrats have shown any desire to jail people for not paying their tax. It is been a source of great annoyance to the office seeking machine Democrats that the people who thus far failed to pay their taxes have not been jailed.

STATE EXAMINER'S REPORT.

The Showing of Financial Condition is Given Complete its Work.

The committees consisting of Dr. F. Dixon, John A. Ramsey, J. W. Atwater, W. P. Onusby and Frank Brown, appointed by the last General Assembly to examine the books of the State Treasurer, Auditor and Tellier, which has been in session for the past week, has completed its labors and made a final report.

The report was filed in the books of the Auditor and Treasurer and states that they have been correctly and neatly kept and in accordance with the law.

All of the members sign the report.

The Showing of Financial Condition is Given Complete its Work.

The committee of the section of the state engaged in the examination of the financial condition of the State, together with a report of the receipts and disbursements during the fiscal year, ending November 30, 1897, was given out.

The Treasurer's book shows the total receipts in the State Treasury for the year 1897, \$1,368,000.

The disbursements were \$1,294,725.24.

The balance on hand for the fiscal year ending November, 1896, was \$88,353.03, which added to the receipts during the year, ending November 30, 1897, makes the total resources of the State \$1,397,044.86.

From these figures it will be observed that there was in the State Treasury November 30th, 1897, the fiscal year just ended, a balance of \$102,319.60.

But the very next day, December 1st, 1897, new warrants to the amount of \$100,000 were issued by the Auditor.

It is shown that the State Treasury is practically empty.

You see, Mr. Editor, by what I have just stated, what a hard fight I had to make to get the bill before the House. However, I am glad that I got along as well as I did with it.

The reforms advocated in my bill will not down at the bidding of railroad attorneys and telephone attorneys and telegraph attorneys were all on board, with Railroad Commissioner S. O. Wilson to oppose and speak against me.

He is a commission merchant elected Speaker of the House made a motion which they report "the bill do not pass," which of course was carried.

I voted no, and gave notice that I would file a minority report which I did. When the bill came up again in the House, H. F. Brown made a motion to table the bill, some one seconded the motion, I called for the ayes and noes, and on this vote the clerks made a mistake when they said the bill was tabled by one vote; it was the vote, and the record so shows. I notice that the CAUCASIAN and Progressive Farmer both state that the bill failed to go through by only one vote. This is not correct, but is as I have above stated.

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Children's Corner

Christmas Bells.

I heard the bells of Christmas day
There's no time like the present,
And a wild and sweet,
The words repeat.
O peace on earth, good will to men,
And though how, as the day come
The bell tolls of old Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroke song
Of peace on earth, good will to men,
Till ringing, swinging on its way
The earth round, the trim night ill day,
A song to a shanty,
A chant sublime,
O peace on earth, good will to men,
—Longfellow.

Some Questions.

NEWTON GROVE, Dec. 13, 1897.

MR. EDITOR.—My paper takes your paper and I like to read it very much. It is a welcome visitor to our home once a week. I intended to answer some questions, but there was not any in your last paper.

How many languages are there?

How many letters, words, verses, chapters and books in the Bible?

How many times does the word "and" occur in the Bible, and the word "Lord"?

When and how many times does the word "reverend" occur in the Bible?

I will close, wishing you much success. LELA WILLIAMS.

An Interesting Letter.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 18, 1897.

MR. EDITOR.—I have been reading the children's letters in THE CAUCASIAN lately, and I thought I would write one too. I am a little girl eight years old. I go to school at the Centennial Graded School of this city. My teacher's name is Miss Lizzie Bellany, I think. I learn very fast under her teaching. I think a great deal of her.

I go to Sunday-school every Sunday at the Baptist Tabernacle, this is the largest Sunday-school in the State; it has over one thousand members. We are going to have a fine time on Christmas. My Sunday School teachers are named Mr. and Mrs. Joe. Weathers, all we children love them.

My papa is a printer and sets type on THE CAUCASIAN. This is my first letter and I hope you will publish it in the Children's Column. I will now close by asking my little friends a question.

What two chapters in the Bible read the same?

Wishing you and your many readers a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. I remain yours most affectionately,

LESSIE MAY HUGGINS,

No 218, E. Lenoir St.

Maceo, the Cuban Patriots.

BUNXTON, DARK CO., N. C., Dec. 12, 1897.

EDITOR C. UGASIAN.—As my first letter escaped your waste basket I will venture on another. In this letter I want to tell you young readers about Antonio Maceo, of Cuba. He took passage on the Nova Scotia bark J. W. Dresser, for New York in July, 1896, and the ship was wrecked on the Star of Bethlehem. I would like to tell you about the Diamond Shoals twelve miles at sea, off Cape Hatteras, N. C. The crew was passenger, the latter consisting of Antonio, his mother and two sisters, who had safely landed on the beach by Capt. Pat. Etteridge and crew of the Cape Hatteras S. S. King. We always meet the life-boat when she lands with a shipwrecked crew.

My sister took Antonio, in her arms and brought him home and he has been our honored guest ever since; he is black and white, he is as white (where he is white) as the driven snow, and where he is black he is as black as the sins of Weyler. He neither speaks Spanish or English, but has a language peculiar to his race. By his fondness for rats and mice, one would think he is a Cuban, but he is a true-born Cuban. After being on the ill-fated vessel all right he will come to my room in the morning and ruin my slumber by uttering an unearthly "me you," but I have to pass his intrusions by unnoticed because he is a "Cuban patriot."

I have heard of a firm in Statesville who offers to trade "moonshine" for cats, they ought to give "moon" and "shine" too for Maceo.

Yours truly,

F. E. SIMPSON, JR.

A CHRISTMAS STORY.

By Laura L. Atkins in the *Youth's Advocate*.—Helen Charteris sat in the library of her beautiful home, gazing into the glowing coals that cast a cheerful light over the room. It was magnificently furnished; the carpet was a soft, rich color; the furniture, mahogany. Around the walls were low book shelves, filled with handsomely-bound books, and above them hung a few fine paintings. Marble and bronze statuettes adorned niches in the walls and the cabinet over the mantel, while Oriental rags were spread on the floor. Mr. Charteris had spent a large fortune in making his home beautiful for his wife and daughters, and Helen had ever been happy in these surroundings, and was bright in her home. There was a large lawn in front of it, where the grass was always a bright emerald, and large trees shaded it. In the summer the magnolia blossoms and the jasmine laded the air with their rich perfumes. Helen was a beautiful girl, and reigned as a queen in the mist of all this loveliness.

But to-day her heart was heavy and sad; her large, dark eyes were sunken; her once bright cheek now pale and thin; while her pale garments told the sad story. Her home, as you may have already guessed, was in the far South, and for many months the yellow fever had raged in the town, leaving many homes sad and desolate. She herself had been very ill, and, when she recovered, it was to see her mother and two little sisters laid to rest in the quiet Greenwood. She was left alone with her father to comfort him in his almost unbearable sorrow. He looked to her for everything, for she was very much like her mother both in feature and disposition; therefore for his sake she tried to be brave.

It was now only a week before Christmas, and Helen was thinking over the past, when this season was the gladdest of all the year. She thought of how, the Christmas before, she had planned such sweet and nearer and nearer the magnet, with surprise for her loved ones, and of the keen delight her little sisters had taken in her gifts—and now they are gone! It would not seem like Christmas without the children, whose merry voices had made such glad music. The longer she mused over the past, the harder the present seemed to bear, and the tears fell rapidly down her cheeks. Finally she went to the window to watch the passers-by, some in their handsome carriages with liveried drivers, some walking briskly, along with bright, happy faces, meeting others who wore ragged garments and carried heavy bundles and baskets. There passed many groups of girls on their way home from shopping expeditions, telling Christmas stories. Then she noticed a group of children playing in the street, all of them ragged and dirty and hungry-looking, and suddenly there dawned on her mind the thought of making a happy Christmas for some of the poor children to whom dear old Santa Claus never made a visit.

She went back to her chair and began to think and try to devise some plan of work. She had never worked among the poor, therefore did not know just how to begin; yet when she made up her mind to do a certain thing, there was nothing back when mountains of difficulty arose before her. She either tried to find a guide or struggled bravely on alone.

Her reverie was soon broken, however, by the announcement of a caller; her pastor, Rev. Oscar Dalton. He was a young man of handsome form and a face that revealed a strong and deep. He was an earnest, practical man, a fine preacher, and though he was only assistant pastor, all the congregation liked him. The regular pastor was a very old man, so most of the duties of visiting devolved on young Dalton; yet his labors were not confined within the limits of his own church. No one knew the good he did among the poor of the town, for his deeds were done in secret, yet many were the homes that blessed the name of Oscar Dalton.

After a short conversation on everyday topics, mention was made of the Christmas season—it's deep, full meaning, that so many lose sight of.

"But, Mr. Dalton," said Helen, "I have not taken any pleasure in the thoughts of it. It is so different from last Christmas, and it does not seem like Christmas since mamma and my dear little ones are gone, and half it planning for them it loses, half it meaning to me."

"Yes, Miss Helen, it is a lonely time for you; but try to make some one else happy, and you will be happy, too."

"I don't know just how you could do it, but I have organized a little school among some of the very poor, and I know their trials will be a meager Christmas. Their parents are poor, undeducated people, some of them indentured and wicked, whilst others, though honest, have scarcely enough to keep soul and body together."

"Well, what would be the best plan of bestowing the gifts—at their homes, or how? I might have a Christmas tree containing something useful as well as toys for them."

"I think the tree would please them most."

"Very well, I will undertake it; but having never done such before, I shall need a great deal of help and advice from you. I will first have to know the names and ages of the children, and get some idea of what they would like and what they need. You can find that out for me, please."

"All right, Miss Helen, I shall be glad to help you in any way I can, and I shall not allow you to provide all these gifts, for there are twenty children who come to school, and there are other children in their homes who will need to be remembered. I will let you know to-morrow the names and ages, for what we do must be done promptly I must go now, and I trust you will find pleasure in the work, and I will go to you in this case. Good morning!"

"Good morning, Mr. Dalton. I thank you so much for your suggestion, and your visit has helped me a great deal."

That afternoon Helen donned her street dress and hat and started out to make her purchases without waiting for Mr. Dalton's report. She knew the girls would want dolls, so she first secured a number of them at the toy store. The next morning when Mr. Dalton came he found her very busy. Near her was a large basket of materials of various hues and texture, while on the table were already several daintily dressed dolls that would please the most fastidious child; but what untold happiness they meant for some little wifis who had never possessed a real doll! Helen watched the beautiful girl with increasing admiration as with deft fingers she plied her needle and thread, creating dainty articles of fairylife beauty, taking as much interest apparently as though they were for her own precious sisters. She had said to him: "Since God has taken my dear ones away from me to live with him, I must find other sis'ers in these poor little ones near me."

The few intervening days passed on, Helen very busy from morning until late at night choosing and arranging the gifts that were to gladden so many lonely hearts.

Oscar Dalton saw her almost daily, ostensibly for the purpose of seeing how the plans were maturing, and to aid her in the undertaking; but he felt a strong magnetism about that beautiful, sad-faced girl which he could not define, which did not allow himself to study out; yet all the while he was being drawn to her.

He had remained "heart whole and fancy free" until that Christmas morning. It was then for the first time that she realized that her heart had found its ideal at last; but the months went by, and neither knew what was in the other's heart.

The joyful spring days came and passed away, followed by bright summer, but no word of love had found utterance; yet each felt that in the other's heart there was a response. "There is a language with-

no power in himself to resist. He had only been in town a short while, and had never been alone with her before. He had seen her a number of times at different social gatherings, but she had ever seemed as a soul that dwelt apart, not because of haughtiness, but because she found no congenial spirits in all that "madding crowd" called society. Helen had no thoughts now save the past and the work of the present. She did not often allow her thoughts to peer into the far off future, did not look beyond Christmas day, when she hoped to see the fruits of her labor in the happiness and joy these gifts would bring to those who had never known such a blessing.

On Christmas Eve she worked late, until every package was in its place on the tree and everything in readiness for the morning. When all was done she went to her room, and, throwing herself across her bed, she burst into a flood of tears. All the pent-up sorrow that had been crushed back through these trying days now found an outlet, and she slept until she fell asleep. When she awoke the light of Christmas morning was creeping into her room. She dressed hurriedly and went down stairs. When she entered the library she saw what was meant for her gift from her father—a life-size portrait of her mother and one of the two sisters together. She could not look at them long, for the tears began to fall; and it would not do for a tearful face to meet her guests.

She arranged the tree in a large room there at home, where the children had always played, and she had spared herself no pains to make it a thing of beauty; and it also proved a joy forever, for her sweet memories are the purest joys of life.

Oscar Dalton had told his protege that he had a surprise for them, and they must all meet him at the school room at seven o'clock Christmas morning. When he reached it at five minutes before seven, every child was there, expectancy written on all their faces. He then conducted them to the home of Col. Charteris, telling them they were invited there by a young lady, and each one must see how well he or she could behave. Helen met them at the door and ushered them in. When all had found seats the curtain was drawn aside, and there before them stood the loveliest Christmas tree they had ever seen. Just over it in evergreen letters were the words, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good will to men." The tree was illuminated with tiny wax candles, sprangles and tinsel glistened all over it, while the boughs were laden with packytes. When Helen told her father her plan he gladly joined in making it a grand success. He called out the names on the packages while he distributed them. These were for the little girls, and drums, tools, etc., for the boy; while each one received something useful in the way of clothing. Then there was candies, fruits and nuts for all. Their faces showed their gratitude, though their lips knew not how to express it.

When they had started on their homeward way rejoicing, Oscar Dalton lingered behind. "Miss Helen, let me wish you a happy Christmas, and may you know that peace which the Christchild brought," and he placed in her hand a small package.

The wedding was not to be until Christmas Eve, because it was in the Christmas season they had known each other. They were to live with Col. Charteris, for Helen said she could not leave her father alone, and he wished for, and needed, a son's love and help.

She only laid her hand in his, and looking up, her dark blue eyes told the story, while her lips softly whispered, "Yes."

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